

**Pentachlorophenol**

**Fence Posts**

**Won't Last**

**Unless You**

**"Make Them Last"**

**with . . .**

**"Penta"**

**Protection**

**MONSANTO**  
CHEMICALS — PLASTICS

IF

you've got all the black locust, Osage orange, mulberry, or cypress (heart) wood that you want, and if you can afford to use such fine, durable woods for fence posts — then you probably don't worry about wood rot and termites. But if your wood lot is getting pretty thin and you have to depend on "scrub" woods for fence posts—here's how to make them last three to five times as long.





## Why Fence Posts Fail...

Fence posts "get sick" too! Wood is attacked by rot and boring insects. Termites, powder-post beetles, and other wood-eating insects bore through untreated wood reducing the post to a honey-combed shell. Microscopic plants (fungi) similar to bread mold, rot away wood that is unprotected.

Ordinary fence posts fail because they are eaten away by insects and wood-rotting fungi. But "penta" is the best "medicine" for your fence posts' ailments. Penta protects them against both rot and insects.



## **"Penta" Treated Posts Cost Less Per Year...**

Under wet, humid conditions, the service life of an untreated post may be no more than three to five years. Agricultural Experiment Stations estimate that posts properly treated with pentachlorophenol have a service life from 15 to 20 years.

An untreated fence post costing 20 cents that fails after three years costs  $6\frac{2}{3}$  cents per year.

The first cost of a "penta" treated post may be higher, but "penta" treated posts frequently last FIVE TIMES AS LONG. In average use, the cost of "penta" treated posts is less than  $2\frac{1}{2}$  cents per year! The estimated SAVING per post is 3 cents a year PLUS the saving in time and labor for replacement.







## Doctor Your Fence Posts! Give them "Penta" Protection!

You can treat cottonwood, pine, oak, and other woods with penta "right in your own back yard." Penta treatment saves money, time and labor. Untreated posts frequently have to be replaced every three to five years. But properly treated posts "wear like iron." *Treatment costs less than one cent per year per post.*



### Here's How

First, peel and season. Peel as soon as possible after cutting. (Peeling is easier then, particularly if you cut in the spring when sap is rising.) Cut your posts to eliminate knots and crooks wherever possible. Pile the peeled posts criss-crossed with plenty of air space. Season 4 to 6 months in summer; 6 to 8 months in winter. Keep piles off the ground with skids or supports. If pile is protected from direct sunlight and rain, "checking" will be negligible.

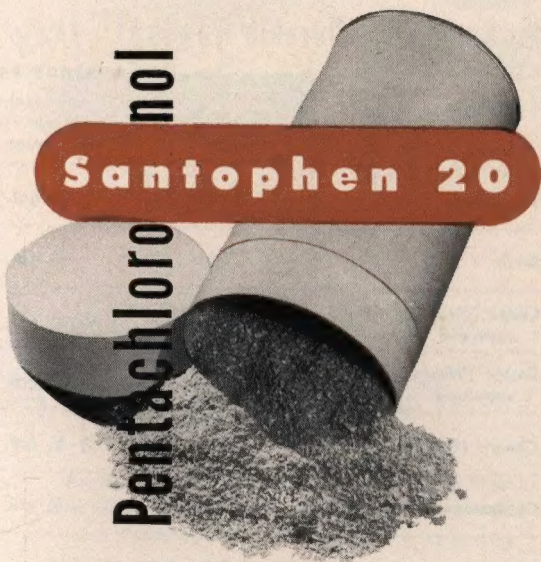


## Dip Treating . . .

Use an oil tight 55-gallon drum or steel stock tank. (Be sure to wash stock tanks thoroughly afterward.) Place as many posts in tank as it will hold without crowding, using a support to keep posts off the bottom of the drum. Pour in preserving solution (5% penta in oil) until tank is full. Let posts soak the required time. If you are dip treating long posts in a 55-gallon drum, soak each end the full length of time. After one end is treated, reverse posts in drum, adding more penta solution to make up for the amount soaked into the wood. After soaking the proper amount of time, stack the posts again with plenty of air space for drying. Fence posts can also be treated lengthwise in one soaking in shallow troughs.







## Use the Best Preservative...

"Penta" is short for pentachlorophenol. It is the best wood preservative yet discovered, more powerful than earlier wood treatments, and longer lasting. Pure "penta" is a dry, flaky chemical. Monsanto "penta" is sold under its trade name, SANTOPHEN 20.

For treating fence posts, penta is dissolved in oil. The ready-to-use treating solution should contain 5% penta. Most users prefer to buy either ready-to-use penta-in-oil solutions or liquid penta-in-oil concentrates that are ready for dilution. Directions for diluting the liquid concentrate are supplied by your dealer. For diluting down the penta concentrate, kerosene, stove oil, or various low-cost distillates are generally recommended.

# Approximate Soaking Times for Some Less Durable Woods

WOOD	DIP PERIOD	AVERAGE POST 1 cubic foot of wood will soak up (approx.)
Basswood	48 hrs.	½ gal.
Birch	72 hrs.	½ gal.
Cedar (Northern white) sapwood	48-72 hrs.	½ - ¾ gal.
Cedar (Western red) sapwood	48-72 hrs.	½ - ¾ gal.
Cherry (black)	48-72 hrs.	½ - ¾ gal.
Cottonwood	24-48 hrs.	¾ gal.
Elm (American)	48 hrs.	½ gal.
Gum (black)	48 hrs.	¼ gal.
Gum (red)	48 hrs.	½ gal.
Hickory	24-48 hrs.	¼ gal.
Maple	24-48 hrs.	¼ gal.
Oak (black)	24-48 hrs.	¼ gal.
Oak (pin)	24-48 hrs.	¼ gal.
Oak (red)	24-48 hrs.	¼ gal.
Oak (white) sapwood	24-48 hrs.	¼ gal.
Pine (loblolly)	48-72 hrs.	¾ gal.
Pine (lodgepole)	48-72 hrs.	½ gal.
Pine (Southern yellow)	72 hrs.	¾ gal.
Pine (ponderosa)	72 hrs.	¾ gal.
Willow	72 hrs.	¾ gal.





## 1. Savings in Time and Labor

Penta protected posts will last three to five times as long as the same posts would last without treatment. Penta may save you **FOUR** replacements over twenty years.

## 2. Proved Protection

Penta treated posts have been tested. In stake "graveyards" under ideal conditions for attack by termite and rot—properly treated posts resist decay and termite attack over years of exposure.

## 3. Long Lasting Protection

Penta is non-volatile and it is practically insoluble in water. Penta does not evaporate and it resists leaching out of the post under the most wet, humid conditions.

## 4. Clean, Easily Handled Fence Posts

After the oil has evaporated, penta treated posts are clean! Protected with penta, fence posts are completely dry. They have no offensive odor or surface bleeding. For special purposes, penta treated posts may be painted or stained.

## 5. No Distortion

Penta treatment does not swell or distort posts. If treatment is made with a non-staining solvent, the appearance of the posts is virtually unchanged. Penta does not cause swelling and distortion of the treated wood.

## 6. No Danger to Hardware

Penta is not corrosive to common metals. Wire, hardware, and staples are not affected by the wood preservative.




Penta protected fences last! This fence will stand three to five times as long because it will resist rot and insects.

## Toxicity

Since penta is by nature a toxic compound, due care should be observed in handling. Precautions should be taken to prevent contact with the skin and eyes. Gloves and suitable protective garments should be used and if solution contacts skin, it should be washed off immediately with soap and water to avoid prolonged contact. If penta solution is accidentally swallowed, call a physician.



## **"Penta" Protected Lumber...**



Ready-treated fence posts and construction lumber are available through suppliers who use commercial, large-scale wood treating methods. Penta protected lumber can be purchased ready-to-use for homes, barns, farm buildings, flooring, platforms, and highway construction. If you'd like to know where you can buy already treated penta-protected lumber, write Monsanto.

## **Monsanto Chemical Company**

**ST. LOUIS**

AKRON • BIRMINGHAM • BOSTON • CHARLOTTE  
CHICAGO • CINCINNATI • CLEVELAND • DETROIT  
HOUSTON • LOS ANGELES • NEW YORK • SEATTLE  
SAN FRANCISCO • MONSANTO (CANADA) LTD.  
MONTREAL (AUSTRALIA) PTY. LTD. • MONSANTO  
CHEMICALS LTD. LONDON.

*... Representatives in the principal cities of the world.*

### **NOTICE**

The information contained in this booklet is to our best knowledge true and accurate, but all recommendations or suggestions are made without guarantee, since the conditions of use are beyond our control. Monsanto Chemical Company disclaims any liability incurred in connection with the use of these data or suggestions.

Furthermore, nothing contained herein shall be construed as a recommendation to use penta in conflict with existing patents covering any material or its use.





Digitized by:



ASSOCIATION  
FOR  
PRESERVATION  
TECHNOLOGY,  
INTERNATIONAL

[www.apti.org](http://www.apti.org)

**BUILDING  
TECHNOLOGY  
HERITAGE  
LIBRARY**

<https://archive.org/details/buildingtechnologyheritagelibrary>

From the collection of:

**NATIONAL  
BUILDING  
ARTS  
CENTER**

<http://web.nationalbuildingarts.org>